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The President gave a short account of his visit to Norway, to observe the Eclipse, in August last; and explained the object of the recent Rules made by the Council for expediting the publication of Communications made to the Academy.

The Secretary read a communication from Digby Pilot Starkey, Esq., M. R. I. A., on a Meteoric Phenomenon, similar to an Aurora Borealis, seen at Kingstown June 22nd, 1851:

“At about half-past 10, P. M., it crossed the magnetic north, from W. to E., nearly horizontally, and disappeared, like the bursting of a rocket, at about 25° or 30° above the horizon. It was of the colour of flame, and left a tail of white light, probably 40° in length, or more, ending where the meteor disappeared, and assuming the appearance of a comet, with a distinct head and long, ribbon-shaped tail. After five minutes, or thereabouts, it began to become wavy, as if blown by the wind; and before a quarter of an hour had elapsed it assumed a form resembling three arches, with rays diverging downwards from three points of contact, the head becoming diffused, but occasionally returned in portions, for some time. The downward rays at the *nodes* were not constant, but remitted and *recurred* more than once. There was the crepuscular haze in the north at the time; sky cloudless; light wind, nearly north; air cold.”

The President said that important and useful information might be preserved for scientific men if those who chanced to observe meteors would be careful to endeavour to mark accurately any particular star near which they appeared, any striking phenomena accompanying them, and the time of their appearance or disappearance as given by a common watch. Should the meteor disappear behind any object, such as a tree, the observer would do well to note also his position at the time, together with the point of disappearance as afforded by the intervening object. Circumstances such as these were almost the only means of determining whether those bodies belonged to our atmosphere, or existed beyond its range.